

Kim DelNigro

From: Roland Bartl
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 9:30 AM
To: Planning Board
Subject: FW: Musket Drive

FYI

FYI

Roland Bartl, AICP
Town Planner, Town of Acton
472 Main Street
Acton, MA 01720
978-264-9636

-----Original Message-----

From: Bruce Stamski
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 4:37 PM
To: Ann Sussman; Transportation Advisory Committee
Cc: Don Johnson; Robert Cowan; Roland Bartl
Subject: RE: Musket Drive

Dear Committee Members:

We would like to inform the committee of the Town's progress in addressing the traffic/pedestrian issues on Musket Drive.

Speeding Issues. The Engineering Department, this June, collected traffic data on Musket Drive between Revolutionary and Jefferson. The 85th percentile speed was 35-36 mph. Within this Thickly Settled neighborhood the speed limit is 30 mph. We informed the Police Department of our findings.

Pedestrian safety. The Planning Board has been active in promoting sidewalks on Musket Drive. Two recent decisions on new development projects require sidewalks to be constructed in this area. The Sidewalk from John Swift to Revolutionary is slated to be constructed this summer. Another developer is required to build a sidewalk either on a section of Washington Drive or on Musket from Revolutionary to the pool house near Washington. The Engineering Department has made contact with the Developer through their Engineering Firm to encourage him to complete the sidewalk on Musket. The installation of the sidewalk will provide the maximum safety for pedestrians. We will continue our efforts to get the sidewalk constructed.
Sincerely,

Bruce M. Stamski, P.E.
Town Engineer/Director of Public Works

-----Original Message-----

From: Ann Sussman
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 10:27 PM
To: Transportation Advisory Committee
Subject: [Fwd: Re: musket drive traffic]

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: musket drive traffic
Date: Tue, 26 Jul 2005 22:26:10 -0400
From: Ann Sussman <annsmail@pipeline.com>
Reply-To: annsmail@pipeline.com

To: Pamela J Winters <Pamela_J_Winters@raytheon.com>
References:
<OFC4A3DE2D.501D8BBB-ON85257049.00441170-85257049.0044BC9F@mck.us.ray.com>

Hi,

You're welcome to attend the meeting. However, If you feel you'd be able to bring a larger group of neighbors in September (we meet on the 13th) - it might be better to put your group on the agenda then.

In either case, we'll start looking into the best ways to handle your concerns this month.

best,

Ann

Pamela J Winters wrote:

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>
> Hi Ann,
>
> Thank you for your reply. That sounds great.
>
> Would it be helpful for area residents to attend the meeting as well?
>
> Thanks,
> Pam
>
>
> *Ann Sussman <annsmail@pipeline.com>*
>
> 07/22/2005 03:44 PM
> Please respond to
> annsmail@pipeline.com
>
>
>
> To
> Pamela J Winters <Pamela_J_Winters@raytheon.com> cc
> tac@acton-ma.gov
> Subject
> Re: musket drive traffic
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>
> Dear Pamela,
>
> Thanks for your note. Yes I've noticed the problem on Musket Drive
> and Washington Street. Cars go fast and there are no sidewalks to
> accommodate children leaving the pool or other pedestrians. I'll bring
> up your concerns at our August 9th meeting and we'll get back to you.
>
> Ann
> Acting-Chair TAC
>
> Pamela J Winters wrote:
>
> >
> > Dear TAC,
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> >
> > Cory York recommended that I contact you for traffic calming advice.
> > I am a resident on Musket Drive.
> >
> > *Background:*

> > Recently a traffic study was performed on Musket Drive by Cory York
> > and Bruce Stansky. The results showed that the 85% percentile speed
> > was 36mph. The street has no posted speed limit, so the speed limit
> > by default is 30 mph. Similar neighborhood streets in our area with
> > posted speed limits are either 20 (Mohawk) mph or 25 (Minuteman,
> > Joseph Reed) mph. Musket Drive is ~30 feet wide, where 24 feet is
> > required for road width. Since Musket Drive appears wide, and
> > vehicles have just turned from Route 27, they continue to travel at
> > speeds greater than 30 mph.
> >

> > *Problem:*

> > Area residents feel that vehicle speed is not safe for the existing
> > roadway. Musket Drive goes down a hill and around a corner at the
> > same location that another street intersects (Jefferson), and a
> > recreation club is located. The main issue is children in the road.
> > Children walking to school need to walk from Musket Drive to
> > Jefferson to reach the school complex. Big and small children walk
> > and ride bicycles to the recreation club (pool) along Musket Drive.
> > Consequently, many children are in the street with vehicles
> > traveling in excess of 30 mph with no clear view due to the road
> > curvature. It must also be stated that the neighborhood has
> > experienced an increase in the number of homes due to new
> > development and a rather large turnover of owners. Newer owners are
> > younger with small children. Therefore, rather recently there is a
> > considerably higher population of young children walking and
> > bicycling along Musket Drive.
> >

> > *Solution:*

> > Traffic calming is needed on Musket Drive. There are several
> > options available that would be appropriate. 1. Raised crosswalk or
> > raised intersection at Musket and Jefferson:
> > It is expected that this would decrease vehicle speed from ~36 mph to
> > ~30 mph. It would also provide a visual aid for children walking to
> > school.
> > 2. Road narrowing: Since Musket Drive is wider than required,
> > narrowing the road would promote vehicles to slow down. This could be
> > done by either adding wide sidewalks, painting lane markers, or other
> > means.
> > 3. Rotary: Adding a small rotary at Musket and Jefferson. This
> > would promote vehicles to slow down, and be visually appealing.
> >

> > *TAC:*

> > Part of your charter includes "Pedestrian issues, including sidewalk
> > planning and priorities, creating pedestrian-friendly areas, and
> > neighborhood traffic calming", so we are hoping that you can provide
> > Musket Drive area residents advice on how to proceed to make Musket
> > Drive a safe area for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists.
> >

> > Acton has made it a priority to have safe roadways in the vicinity
> > of schools and playgrounds for children. These areas have sidewalks
> > and posted speeds less than 30mph. The recreation "pool" club on
> > Musket has 100 households as members and most likely draws more
> > children than many of the playgrounds throughout Acton. It may even
> > be competitive with some schools considering the number of kids who take buses.
> > Attention to this problem area of Musket Drive seems quite logical to
> > us who live here. Please visit the area some sunny hot weekday,
> > around 5pm, when many kids leave the pool to go home for supper, and
> > you will clearly see the safety issue.
> >
> >
> > Thank you.
> >

> > Sincerely,
> > Pam Winters
> > 15 Musket Drive
> > 978.440.4899
>
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